GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:835
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
INDIA EU SUMMIT
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and EU have decided to strengthen their relations at the India-EU Summit held on November 30,2007;

(b) if so, whether a comprehensive review of the joint action plan and further development of trade and investment agreements were discussed;

(c) if so, the outcome of the Summit held;

(d) the details of agreements signed therein; and

(e) the steps being taken to implement these agreements?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (e): The 8th India-EU Annual Summit took place on November 30, 2007 in New Delhi. The two sides discussed various bilateral and global issues of mutual interests to further strengthen the strategic partnership. The two sides had earlier agreed on a Strategic Partnership in 2004 and adopted a Joint Action Plan in 2005 to implement this. During the Summit the two sides reviewed the Joint Action Plan and welcomed the progress in its implementation, and looked forward to further advances. An overall assessment of the Joint Action Plan will take place in 2008. Both sides welcomed the progress achieved in the first few rounds of negotiations on the India-EU Trade and Investment Agreement and reaffirmed commitment to further intensify negotiations. A MoU on 'Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2007-2010' in the field of development cooperation was signed and 'Agreement for Scientific & Technological Cooperation' was renewed during the summit. A Joint Statement and a Joint Action Plan Implementation Report were issued at the summit.